GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:674
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2003
COAL BED METHANE
GORDHANBHAI JAVIA

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of States/regions which produce Coal Bed Methane in the country;

(b) the quantum of Coal Bed Methane produced annually in the said States/ regions;

(c) whether there is a policy of Government on CBM;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to increase the production of CBM?

Answer

Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas (Shri Ram Naik)

(a) to (e):- A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 674 BY SHRI G. JAVIYA TO BE ANSWERED ON 8TH MAY, 2003 REGARDING COAL BED METHANE.

(a) & (b):- As of date, there is no commercial production of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) in India.

(c) to (e):- In order to harness CBM as an alternative source of energy, the Government has , in 1997,formulated a policy for exploration & production of CBM which providesfor award of blocks on the basis of International Competitive Bidding.In the first offer of blocks under the Policy, five blocks, i.e. two blocks each in Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh and one block in West Bengal, have been awarded. The contracts for all these five blocks have been signed, two with a Consortium of Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), one with Essar Oil Limited and two with Reliance Industries Limited. In addition, a contracts for two blocks, i.e. one each in Jharkhand and West Bengal, have been signed with a consortium of ONGC and Coal India Limited (CIL).Also, a contract for one more CBM block in West Bengal has been signed with M/s. Great Eastern Energy Corporation Limited (GEECL).